



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Thicket
National Preserve

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News Release

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For Immediate Release
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Fall Activities in the Big Thicket

Big Thicket National Preserve Park Rangers will present free programs every weekend this fall.

Join a park ranger on a 1.5 mile **Kirby Nature Trail Hike** to get a glimpse into the diversity of the Big Thicket; learn outdoor skills with **Map and Compass** and **Kids Wilderness Survival**; and explore plants that enjoy **Insects for Lunch**. These guided programs are available weekends through the autumn months. Information and schedules are available at local libraries, by internet at www.nps.gov/bith, and by phone at 409-951-6701. Fall is a great and comfortable time of the year to explore the beauty and the transitions of the woods in the Big Thicket.

Park Rangers will also guide explorations of the Neches River aboard the Cardinal Cruise every Saturday morning. The Cardinal Cruise departs from Riverfront Park in Beaumont. For information, additional scheduled cruises, and reservations contact: 409-880-8907.

As part of National Public Lands Day, the largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance public lands in America, the Big Thicket will host two special events. On Saturday September 27th, a **Bike Rally**, organized by the Southeast Texas Hike & Bike Coalition, will tour the scenic Big Thicket countryside. For information or registration call 409-866-5138 or go to www.funtrails.org. On Saturday October 25th, Big Thicket rangers will throw a **Trash Bash**, to clean up popular Village Creek access areas. For information or to sign up call: 409-951-6701. For a list of all other local and national Public Lands Day events, visit www.publiclandsday.org.